THE

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VIRGINIA MAGAZINE

OF

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY

THE VIRGINIA HISTORICAL SOCIETY,

FOR

THE YEAR ENDING JUNE, 1907.

VOLUME XIV.

RICHMOND, VA:
HOUSE OF THE SOCIETY,
No. 707 EAST FRANKLIN ST.

PUBLICATION COMMITTEE.

ARCHER ANDERSON,
C. V. MEREDITH,
E. V. VALENTINE,
REV. W. MEADE CLARK.

Editor of the Magazine.

WILLIAM G. STANARD.

WM. ELLIS JONES, PRINTER,

RICHMOND, VA.

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PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Virginia Historical Society

AT ITS

ANNUAL MEETING

HELD IN THE

Virginia Historical Society Building, December 18, 1906,

WITH THE

LIST OF OFFICERS AND MEMBERS OF THE SOCIETY.

RICHMOND:
WM. ELLIS JONES, BOOK AND JOB PRINTER.
1907.

PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Virginia Historical Society

IN

Annual Meeting held December 18, 1906.

The annual meeting was held at the Society's House, 707 E. Franklin street.

President Joseph Bryan called the meeting to order at 8 :30 P. M., and requested that Mr. D. C. Richardson act as Secretary.

The President then read the annual report.

THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

RICHMOND, VA., December 18, 1906.

To the Members of the Virginia Historical Society;

The Executive Committee of the Virginia Historical Society has the honor to submit the following report for the past year:

Our membership, after deducting all who have been dropped for non-payment of dues, resigned, or have died, now numbers seven hundred and fifty-two.

This gratifying number indicates a continuance of interest in the objects of the Society which, being a purely voluntary organization and dependent upon the support of its members, can appeal only to the higher motives which a love of country and its history imparts to maintain its existence.

The return by members of their dues has been fairly good, but the indifference of some is a source of unnecessary

trouble, which, it is earnestly hoped, a livelier sense of duty may remove.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The illness and ultimate death of our Treasurer, Mr. Robert T. Brooke, in July last, required the Executive Committee to impose upon our Corresponding Secretary the duties of Treasurer *pro tem.*

The accounts of Mr. Brooke were reviewed by a committee of the Executive Committee, and a full settlement was had with the personal representative of the late Treasurer. His accounts were found in perfect form and precisely exact, and a proper receipt was given to Mr. Brooke's administrator.

The report of the Treasurer *pro tem* is as follows:

Balance on hand November 11, 1905		$ 144 07
RECEIPTS.		
Annual dues	$3,072 02	
Magazines (sales)	366 85	
Publications (sales)	53 25	
Interest	228 00	
Advertisements	67 00	
Miscellaneous sources	1 36	
	$3,788 48	$ 3,788 48
		$ 3,932 55
EXPENDITURES.		
General expenses	$ 389 91	
Stationery, bookbindings	32 45	
Stamps and express	136 78	
Insurance	52 50	
Printing, Magazines, etc	1,031 80	
Papering rooms	95 50	
Repairing roof	53 50	
Salaries	1,574 95	
Wages	240 00	
	$3,607 39	$3 607 39
Balance in State Bank, November 10, 1906		$ 325 16

The Acting Treasurer holds, in addition, on account of the "Permanent Fund"	
3 per cent. Certificates	455 60
3 per cent. Virginia Century Bonds	100 00
Mortgage running 3 years at 5 per cent. from May 4, 1904,	4,500 00
	$5,055 60

Since the end of the fiscal year, Mr. Byam K. Stevens, a generous friend of the Society, has presented $100 to the Permanent Fund.

A further and handsome bequest has been made to the Society by our lamented colleague on the Executive Committee, Mr. Edward Wilson James, of Norfolk, Va., who, by his will, dated in January, 1900, left the Society fifteen shares of stock of the Citizens' Bank, of Norfolk, now worth about $215 a share, a total value of $3,225. There is now pending some litigation in regard to this will, but no doubt is felt that the Society will ultimately receive the bequest, which is the first that we can recall that this Society has received in its seventy-five years of existence. With the gift of Mr. Stevens and the bequest of Mr. James, our permanent fund amounts to $8,380.

In the spring of this year the Executive Committee determined to make some needed improvements in the Society's house, for which they appropriated $250. Mr. S. H. Yonge was made chairman of the committee in charge of the work. Our good friends, the patriotic ladies of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and of the Colonial Dames of Virginia, who sometimes honor us by holding their meetings in our building, offered to pay half of any additional amount which might be expended above the appropriation, and accordingly paid $137 towards repairs, for which they have our hearty thanks. The work of painting and papering the house has been well and most tastefully done.

The furniture and pictures and many thousands of books

had to be removed and replaced to make way for the workmen. A heavy portion of this burden fell upon our valued Associate Librarian, Mrs. Sally Nelson Robins, who executed her functions to our great satisfaction. Other repairs were made as will appear in the Treasurer's report.

GIFTS AND LOANS.

Among the gifts and loans of objects of historic interest which have been made during the last year to the Society, the following may be mentioned:

From Mr. Edward Wilson James: Engraved portraits of Commodore Richard Dale, Justice P. V. Daniel, of the United States Supreme Court; John M. Daniel, the famous war editor, and Rev. J. L. Burrows, D. D., a distinguished Baptist divine.

From Mrs. Fletcher A. Archer, Petersburg, Va., (loan), a frame drawing of the battlefield of Buena Vista, done by George F. Richards, Saltillo, September 11, 1847.

From Mr. R. B. Munford, Jr., engraved and lithographic portraits of Commodore Maury, President Davis, General T. J. Jackson; a colored lithograph of Washington's tomb, 1858; a photograph of the members of the Richmond City Government in 1870, and a rare armorial book-plate of Theodorick B. Banister.

From Mr. Jeffry Montague, Richmond, Va., a photograph of an old vellum pedigree of the Peyton family, prepared in 1684, and giving the name of Robert Peyton as in Virginia.

From the Jewish Historical Society, a beautiful bronze medal, struck by that Society to commemorate the two hundredth and fiftieth anniversary of the settlement of Jews within the present United States.

From General C. W. Robinson, Beverley House, Ealing Rise, Ealing, England, (a descendant of Christopher Robin-

son, who left William and Mary College to join the English forces), a photograph from the original at Fulham Palace, London, of the portrait of John Robinson, Bishop of London, within whose diocese Virginia once lay, and whose brother, Christopher Robinson, of Middlesex county, Va., was the ancestor of a well known Virginia family.

From Mr. St. George T. C. Bryan, Richmond, Va., portions of bayonets, gun barrels, etc., from the site of the Virginia Revolutionary Armory, at Point of Fork, near Columbia, Va.

From the heirs of the late Dr. J. B. McCaw, Richmond, Va., an oil portrait (bust size) of General R. E. Lee, painted from life during the Civil War, at Winchester, Va., by E. C. Bruce. The Society is deeply indebted to the family of Dr. McCaw, for allowing this valuable portrait to find a fitting home in the house which was General Lee's war residence.

From Miss Helen Chambers Bouldin, through Mr. W. W. Scott, State Law Librarian, (loan), a MS copy of General Lee's last general orders, with his autograph signature. This most interesting document will find a suitable place near the portrait which has just been described.

From Mr. W. W. Scott, State Law Librarian, (loan), an armorial book-plate of George Wythe, signer of the Declaration of Independence. Underneath is written (inside the book back) "Given by Thos. Jefferson to D. Carr, 1806."

From Mr. E. P. Valentine, engraved portrait of John P. McGuire, distinguished teacher and member of our Executive Committee.

In writing of additions to our portraits attention should be called to another recently made. At the back of a drawer in an old bookcase was found an engraved portrait of Lord Botetourt. It is stated to be done from a medallion in the possession of John Norton, Esq., is dated London, 1774, and is dedicated by the engraver, H. Ashby, to the General As-

sembly of Virginia. This very rare and perhaps unique picture has, of course, been suitably framed and hung.

Other persons who have made donations of books and objects of historic or antiquarian interest have been: Miss Mary E. Sinnott, Miss Susan M. Kingsbury, Mrs. L. B. Tandy, Mrs. Virginia A. Garber, Mrs. Cassie Moncure Lyne, Miss Mary Greenhow, the Marquis Ruvigny and Raineval, Messrs. P. A. Bruce, C. A. Converse, W. Gordon McCabe, A. C. Quesenbery, Edwin Sauter, Edward Wilson James, William Wallace Tooker, James Davis, B. G. Randolph, B. G. Thwaits, R. B. Munford, Jr., J. A. Groves, Samuel A. Green, Joseph Bryan, N. Darnall Davis, (British Guiana), J. F. Crocker, William Clayton Torrence, John T. Goolrick, A. M. Waddell, T. C. Morton, G. F. Judah, (Kingston, Jamaica), W. F. Cooper, and W. G. Stanard.

ADDITIONS TO LIBRARY.

The additions to the library consist of three hundred and eighty-four books and pamphlets, many of them of high value.

Our numerous exchanges with various historical and genealogical societies in the United States, Canada, England, France and Sweden, bring us constantly a very valuable collection of material which is nowhere else to be found in the State. These exchanges are indexed when received, and when the means of the Society will permit their being properly, promptly and regularly bound, their use will be much facilitated.

A number of volumes of newspapers have been bound during the year, and more shelf room is a crying need for these as for other sections of our library.

The binding of pamphlets, chiefly in binding cases, has been done to some extent this year, but the confusion consequent upon the repairs to the building has prevented as much being done as was desired.

As in previous years, our library and manuscript collection has been largely used by students.

Through the work of our very careful and accurate copyist, Miss Anne C. Bentley, we have added to our manuscript collection two large volumes with index, containing all the reference to revolutionary officers and soldiers which appear in the journals of the Conventions, and the first fifteen years of the House of Delegates.

Miss Bentley has just completed an index of names to the Minute Books of the General Court of Virginia, 1670 to 1676. As soon as the slips can be arranged and copied the index will be available to those who desire to consult it.

Reference was made last year to the approaching publication by the Library of Congress, of that monumental record of early Virginia history, the minutes of the London Company. This work has been printed and has been given to the public.

Librarian Putnam and Chief of the MSS Division, Ford, have done a vast service to early American history in the publication of these minutes. The volumes are made more valuable by the learned introduction by Miss Susan M. Kingsbury.

The Virginia State Library has continued its good work of last year by publishing in the same beautiful style the Journals of the House of Burgesses, 1770-1772. The State Library has received a number of copies of MS Journals, some of them previously unknown. The same institution published during the year a valuable catalogue of the State Archives.

In concluding a brief review of historic work in regard to Virginia, it should be stated that it is understood that our present member and former colleague on this committee, Mr. P. A. Bruce, has finished his Institutional history of Virginia in the Seventeenth Century, which concludes his stud-

ies of that period. The work will, it is believed, appear during 1907, and will be a book of immense value.

PUBLICATIONS.

The programme mapped out by the Committee for the Magazine at its 1905 meeting has been steadily adhered to, and will be carried out during the coming year. It is gratifying to state that the contents of the Magazine during the past year, especially the subjects relating to the settlement of Western Virginia, and the German emigration, have received high commendations from scholars in many sections of the country.

In January, 1906, was reprinted a very rare (perhaps unique) pamphlet, published in Williamsburg, 1756, and giving an account of the treaty between Virginia and the Catawbas and Cherokees in that year. This treaty was a matter of vital moment to the Colonies at that time. In the same magazine the publication of the Vestry Book of King William Parish, which has been translated from the original French, and edited in such a scholarly manner by Professor R. H. Fife, of Wesleyan University, was concluded. In April ended the very valuable series of extracts from the Council Journal of 1722-1734, which has been published under the title, "The Early Westward Movement of Virginia," and which, with Mr. Charles E. Kemper's most thorough editing, has added so much to the knowledge of the history of the settlement of the Valley of Virginia.

In April was begun the series of Revolutionary Army orders for the then main army, under Washington, which has been, and will continue to be, a very valuable contribution to Revolutionary history.

With the instalment in the January, 1907, Magazine, we will have published all (with the exception of some unpublished laws, which will be printed later) of those precious

fragments, which Mr. Conway Robinson gathered from the old Virginia Records, destroyed by fire in 1865.

In the same number of the Magazine the series of abstracts and copies from the English Public Records, which have been in course of publication for several years, was brought down through Harvey's administration. There have been published in this series not only many full copies from the Winder, DeJarnette and McDonald papers, but a series of abstracts prepared by Mr. Sainsbury for the State of Virginia, which are much fuller than those given in the printed English calendar of Colonial State Papers.

It may be well to state here that the publication of the Sainsbury abstracts, etc., had reached the year 1625, when the publication committee was informed in December, 1899, by the late Alexander Brown, that he possessed full copies of all Virginia documents in England from 1607 to 1627, which he proposed to publish. It was then determined to stop the continuous publication of the abstracts, and to begin again in 1628, in order not to interfere with Mr. Brown's plans. Nothing seems to be known of this complete collection of copies since Mr. Brown's death, so that it may be well for the Society to take up and print the documents for 1626-1627.

The Virginia Legislative Papers have been printed throughout the year, and contain an abundant mass of valuable unpublished material for future years. The most valuable of these papers during the year have been the Indian treaty at Fort Pitt (Dunmore) in 1773, the petitions of the various county committees of safety and the intercepted letters of the Norfolk and Portsmouth Loyalists.

With the July number began what our chief historical contemporary describes as a most valuable series of documents, the publication, in as an entire a form as the originals will admit, of the Journals of the Executive Council, 1737-1763.

In this, too, we have abundant material for some time to come.

Professor W. J. Hinke, of Philadelphia, to whom we have been before much indebted, gave in the October Magazine, a most valuable contribution, chiefly from German sources, of the interesting settlement and Church of the German Lutherans, who came to the present Madison county about 1725.

Mr. Lothrop Withington, of London, has continued and promises to continue his "Gleanings" from English wills, relating to Virginia, which have given so much information in regard to the social status, and English homes of emigrants to Virginia, as well as amount of property owned by testators in Virginia. These business relations with England are biographical facts in the lives of prominent colonists.

Of the miscellaneous articles of the Magazine we may mention Commissions to Governors, letters, extracts from county records and genealogies.

In the January, 1907, Magazine, were begun the publication of the papers copied some years ago for the Society from the Virginia Records in the Library of Congress, This first instalment contains several papers of much importance on Bacon's Rebellion.

As has been stated, the programme laid out for the Magazine at the beginning of 1906, provides ample material for publication for 1907. It has also been thought, however, that the committee might deem it advisable to commemorate the year 1907 by a special series of publications in addition and supplementary to the regular issues of the Magazine. If so, it is suggested that this series consist of reprints of what may be called the fundamental documents of Virginia history, and of early pamphlets in regard to the same subject, which are practically inaccessible. It is, of course, known that many of the documents referred to are accessible to students in large cities, but even to them it will be con-

venient to have these documents so grouped. It is moreover the desire of this Society to spread a knowledge of Virginia history among the many who are not specialists in that subject, and to give them, far away from large cities, as many of them are, an opportunity to have the original sources at hand. The proposed list now given, merely tentatively and not worked out in detail, is as follows:

1. Letters patent to Sir Humphrey Gilbert, 1578.
2. Letters patent to Sir Walter Raleigh, 1584.
3. First charter of Virginia, April 10, 1606.
4. Instructions for Virginia, November 20, 1606.
5. Ordinance and Constitution enlarging the number of Councils, etc., March 9, 1607.
6. Orders and instructions from the King's Council for the Government of the Colony, (printed in Neill's Virginia Company, 4-8).
7. From the King's Council, advice to the Colony on Landing(*Ib.* 8-14).
8. Drayton's Ode to the Virginia Voyagers.
9. Smith's True Relation.
10. The description of the new discovered river and country in Virginia, (MSS copy State Library and print Archæologia Americana, IV, 59-62).
11. Second charter of Virginia, March 3, 1609.
12. Third charter of Virginia, March 12, 1611-12.
13. Ordinance and Constitution for a Council of State and General Assembly in Virginia, July 24, 1621.

The charter of laws and ordinances, dated November 13, 1618, which first granted an Assembly to Virginia, has not been found, but the above is believed to be a copy, with the necessary alterations of names and dates.

14. Journal of the First Assembly, 1619.
15. Edward Waterhouse's Declaration of the State of the Colony, the massacre, etc., London, 1622, (a rare pamphlet not reprinted).

The items which have been given will be sufficient to show the character of the proposed series. Copying the rare pamphlets will be some additional expense, and it is also suggested that the publication be illustrated with portraits, *fac-similies* of title pages and of documents, views, etc.

REVIEW OF PAST WORK.

The present speaker in his first address in an earlier administration, reviewed the historical work of the Society prior to 1892. It may be well here to state briefly what has been done since that time in the publication of the Magazine.

In addition to the great mass of other material, we have printed more than 3,200 pages of hitherto unpublished manuscripts—original sources on the history and antiquities of Virginia. Taking up our history at an early period, we printed a number of Ferrar papers, the now well known "Declaration of the Old Company," (1625), and followed this with very many commissions, instructions, reports, proclamations, etc. Taking Sainsbury's abstracts from the Virginia records in the British Public Record Office, as a basis, (abstracts much fuller than those given in the printed English calendars), we not only printed them, but also many full copies which were to be found in the McDonald, DeJarnette and Winder papers in the State Library. This series has been carried down to 1640. The invaluable notes made by Conway Robinson from the Seventeenth Century Virginia Records, which were burnt in 1865, have been published in entirety. We gave for the first time the documents relating to the deposition of Governor Harvey, in 1635, and published for the first time since 1652, the letter of that date describing the surrender of Virginia to the Parliamentary forces. The 180 or 190 pages relating to Bacon's Rebellion, comprise all known unpublished matter of any importance, including the very valuable report of the Commissioners. In regard to the stormy administration of Governor Nicholson and the

founding of William and Mary College, we have printed much new and valuable material. The details of the running of the Virginia and North Carolina boundary line in 1710 were unknown until our publication of reports and depositions. The Moravian diaries (translated from the German) containing the earliest contemporary accounts of the Valley of Virginia, and all the entries in the Council Journal, 1722-1734, relating to the western portion of Virginia, furnished for the first time real materials for the beginning of the history of that great section. These extracts from the Journal, together with the diaries, give a vast amount of information in regard to the early German element, and we have also published the first accurate account of the founding of the German Lutheran Church in the present Madison county. Intercourse with the Indians has been illustrated by the treaties (often accompanied by letters and journals) with the Virginia Indians in 1677, at Lancaster, 1744, at Logs Town, 1752, with the Catawbas and Cherokees in 1756, with the Cherokees in 1760 and 1770, and at Pittsburg in 1775. The printing of the Executive Journal of Council, 1736-63, now in progress, fills a decided gap in our historical material, and the letters of the Virginia Committee of Correspondence and Montague, the Virginia Agent in England, 1759-67, afford very valuable data for that period. The rosters of Virginia companies in the French and Indian wars gave for the first time some idea of the personnel of the Virginia forces at that time, and Newell's order-book and diary was the longest document which has been published in regard to the Point Pleasant Campaign. Redd's reminiscenses were full of new material in regard to Southwestern Virginia in pre-Revolutionary days, and the 325 pages relating to that struggle contain many important rosters, letters, etc., including the correspondence of General Phillips, commanding the British prisoners at Charlottesville, with Colonel Bland commanding the American force as guard.

In regard to Colonial legislation, we have printed the acts (as far as they survive) of a hitherto unknown session of 1641, and a complete abridgment of Virginia laws prepared in 1694. The very interesting Huguenot element in our population has been illustrated by the vestry book of King William parish, 1707-1750, translated from the French original. The long series of letters of William Fitzhugh threw much light on social and business conditions at the end of the seventeenth century. The *"Virginia Legislative Paper,"* consisting of petitions, letters, etc., sent to the Legislature from 1774 down have proved a fruitful source of information.

These are only some of the subjects which have been treated of in our publication of original documents. To these may be added the *John Brown Papers,* the series of land grants down to 1636, the extracts from the county records, the great number of wills, giving information in regard to people and property, the letters of Washington, Jefferson, Henry Lee, Lafayette and many others, the extracts from parish registers, the full history of the trustees of Hampden-Sidney College, lists of members of the House of Burgesses, Catalogues of Virginia newspapers in public libraries, genealogies, and other subjects bearing on Virginia history and antiquities, cover a field entirely too large even to be mentioned in the briefest way.

Nor have our larger articles been altogether the publication of documents. Mr. S. H. Yonge's *"Site of Old Jamestown,"* was first published in the Magazine, and gave students for the first time an accurate knowledge of our famous old capital.

DEATHS.

The hand of death has been laid with unprecedented heaviness upon the body of our membership during the past year. Seventeen of our members have answered the call, and among them were some distinguished by their scholarly attainments

and public services, and some who were close to our daily lives in the fellowship of the Executive Committee.

We have thus lost:

ROBERT T. BROOKE, Treasurer Virginia Historical Society.
JOHN P. MCGUIRE. Member Executive Committee.
EDWARD WILSON JAMES, Member Executive Committee.

HONORARY MEMBER.

ALEXANDER BROWN, Nelson county, Va.

LIFE MEMBER.

GEORGE M. BAIN, Norfolk, Va.

ANNUAL MEMBERS.

COL. F. M. BOYKIN, Richmond, Va.
ELLIOTT DANFORTH, New York, N. Y.
COL. A. E. DICKINSON, New York, N. Y.
DR. CHARLES H. HALL, Macon, Ga.
HON. R. R. HITT, Washington, D. C.
FRANK HUME, Washington, D. C.
JAMES A. PATTESON, New York, N. Y.
JUDGE C. W. RAINES, Austin, Texas.
WILLIAM B. ROBINS, Richmond, Va.
COL. R. STURDEVANT, Cape Girardeau, Mo.
H. C. WITHERS, Austin, Texas.
COL. R. H. DULANEY, Loudoun county, Va.

Mr. Robert T. Brooke had been the faithful and efficient Treasurer of this Society since February, 1882.

He was not only precise and punctual in the discharge of his duties, but, belonging to a family which had long been conspicuously and honorably identified with the history of Virginia, he was thoroughly interested in the work of the Society, and his venerable presence was a veritable benediction upon the meetings of the Executive Committee.

John P. McGuire had the zeal of a crusader in his love for Virginia, and all that belonged to her glorious, but tragic past. To this ardent spirit he added the cultivation of a scholar and the training of a distinguished teacher. His enthusiasm was a power "to provoke us to good works," and its influence will be felt to the last by those who had the privilege of being brought under its power.

Edward Wilson James was by nature and long exercise an antiquarian of the most devoted order. Enjoying an ample fortune, he abstained from active business, and employed a life unencumbered with the cares of a family to historical investigation, to illustrate which, he published for many years a magazine of his own, the "Lower Norfolk County Virginia Antiquary." In leaving this Society a legacy worth nearly $3,300, he has not only done us a much needed and highly appreciated benefit, but has been the first to exemplify the fact that this society is by law permitted to receive such bequests.

Alexander Brown had by his patient and laborious research added much to the knowledge of the earliest history of Virginia. He sought the very fountain-heads of information. He was not only an honorary member of this Society, but an honor to the literature of the State.

The names of other distinguished men in our mortuary column give much material for eulogy, but without rehearsing them, it may be said that from this Society in all its history, the great Reaper has never garnered a richer sheaf.

THE TER-CENTENNIAL.

As we approach the great anniversary which completes the three hundredth year of the settlement at Jamestown, and take retrospect from our present place in this nation of unparalleled development and wealth back to the desperate condition of those who strove despite starvation, disease and death to found a home on these Atlantic shores, our eagerness increases to study every step those brave men and wo-

men took. There is implanted in every noble heart a reverence for its ancestry, and where that reverence is lacking, the deficiency is marked by a speedy decline and ultimate decay of such people. Where the proper spirit exists in those who are blessed with an ancestry of honorable, patriotic and heroic mould, such a people may expect to attain and maintain a foremost place in civilization. And such is our fortunate condition.

The fullness of our time is upon us, and we are to show in every way in our power that we both understand and rightly appreciate the magnitude of the achievements of those who have made the history of Virginia from her very foundation until now.

While exerting ourselves to do our plain duty in this respect, we are encouraged by the great interest which this ter-centennial is arousing and, indeed, has aroused throughout our country and abroad. The immense part which was performed for this nation by Virginians, upon the soil of Virginia, is becoming more and more understood and appreciated. It seems to have required some striking event to concentrate the minds of men upon the truths of history as to Virginia. This has been done, and our State, with the generous and cordial aid of the United States government, and especially of President Theodore Roosevelt, is making elabborate preparation to appropriately celebrate in the summer and fall of 1907, the settlement at Jamestown in 1607.

As a proper subject to be put on the records of this Society, as well as for the immediate information of our members, it seems proper to state briefly some of the more important steps which have been and will be taken at Jamestown to mark the year 1907.

It should be mentioned as a subject of great satisfaction that the United States government has already, at the expense of over $40,000, put a most substantial wall on the northwest end of Jamestown Island, which will effectually and,

we believe, permanently check the inroads of the river, and preserve from the wasting waters the most historic and interesting portion of the island. This invaluable and indispensable service was rendered by the government primarily to the Society for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, and was secured through the indefatigable exertions of the late Mrs. J. L. M. Curry, and the late Honorable George Frisbie Hoar, United States Senator from Massachusetts, without whose unfailing interest the work would probably never have been done in our time. These two, above all others who were engaged in this work, should this Society hold in grateful memory.

The United States government has ordered the erection at Jamestown of a granite monument about 100 feet high, of the same design as the national Washington monument. This monument will be near the old Church Tower, and fronting the river. A wharf will be built by the government close by, giving convenient access from the river. The necessary land has been conveyed by the A. P. V. A. The President has very kindly indicated that the inscriptions on this monument shall be satisfactory to that Society.

The reconstruction of the old church has been undertaken by the Colonial Dames of America, and the services of a most accomplished architect engaged for the work. By a very skillful use of concrete piers and heavy steel beams the old foundations will not be disturbed by the new structure, but will be superimposed without resting on the old brick foundation.

The old tower will remain intact. The Daughters of the American Revolution will erect on the grounds a building of Colonial form.

The descendants of Pocahontas have given a commission to Mr. Partridge to erect a bronze statue to the Indian Princess, and the ladies of the Association for the Preservation of Virginia Antiquities, have contracted with the sculp-

tor, Mr. William Couper, to make a bronze statue of Captain John Smith. All this work, it is expected, will be completed by May, 1907.

This Society will co-operate with the State of Virginia in making a historical exhibit at the Jamestown Exposition, which it should be said for the benefit of those not familiar either with the geography of the place or the plans of the Exposition Company, will be held, not on Jamestown Island, but about forty miles down, at the mouth of James river, on Hampton Roads, opposite Fortress Monroe.

Our exhibit will consist mainly of a great mass of the autographs and manuscripts of distinguished Virginians from and including Sir William Berkeley, down to and including the Revolutionary period.

Besides these there will be numerous documents illustrating old methods of conveying land, Governors' proclamations, Royal vetoes, proceedings in Council and the House of Burgesses, usages of courts, and methods of business and economic conditions, medicine, education and libraries.

It is to be hoped that the stir which this movement will create will bring to light further material of historic interest which has been overlooked, ignored or forgotten by the possessors throughout the State.

In conclusion, I may say that never in its history have the present affairs of our Society been in better condition, or its future so full of fair promise, and while the members of the Society and the Executive Committee have all in their respective spheres contributed to this happy result, yet the principal factor in securing and preserving the excellent position this Society has obtained, both at home and abroad, has been the learning and labors of our corresponding secretaries. The work begun and executed with such distinguished success by our late corresponding secretary, Mr. Philip A. Bruce, was on his resignation taken up and carried forward by our present corresponding secretary, Mr. William G. Stan-

ard, with an earnestness and fidelity which has won for him, as he deserves, the confidence and esteem of this Committee, but especially of your President who gratefully acknowledges his indebtedness to Mr. Stanard for indispensable information and material in preparing this report.

It will gratify the friends of the Society to know that the annual address, required by our Constitution, will, on the fourth of January, 1907, be delivered by Mr. Worthington C. Ford. This Society has been singularly fortunate in securing the cordial aid of the best historians of our country in performing this constitutional duty, and in the present instance, we have every reason to congratulate ourselves.

JOSEPH BRYAN, *President.*

At the conclusion of the report the President announced that the next business in order was the election of officers and members of the Executive Committee for the year 1907.

On motion, a nominating committee was appointed, and this committee, composed of Messrs. Wm. Ellis Jones, Chairman, W. L. Sheppard, and S. S. P. Patteson, brought in the following nominations:

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The officers nominated were unanimously elected.

On motion, the meeting adjourned.

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Virginia Historical Society

JANUARY, 1907.

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